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TAMPA MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARM

Tampa, FL - United States District Judge James S. Moody, Jr. today sentenced BRIAN EUGENE TAYLOR, age 35, of Tampa, Florida, to 15 years' imprisonment, to be followed by a term of 5 years of supervised release. TAYLOR pled guilty on September 5, 2007 to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and possession of a stolen firearm.

According to the indictment and testimony in court, TAYLOR stole a Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver from his step-father and then pawned it at a pawn shop in Tampa on November 17, 2006. Tampa Police Department investigators discovered the pawn record and then determined that TAYLOR was, at that time, a person who had previously been convicted of numerous felony offenses, including multiple robbery convictions. They also determined that the State of Florida had not restored to TAYLOR his right to possess a firearm.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (A.T.F.) and the Tampa Police Department. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Tampa Division.